

## WOMAN "FIREBUG" P.LICE DECLARE THEIR PRISONER

Mrs. Rowe Admits Setting  
Blaze in Tenement Cellar  
While Intoxicated.

THREE HOUSES FIRED.  
Arrested Near Flames in Ash  
Can, Caretaker Doesn't Re-  
member Other Cases.

Technically charged with intoxication and being a suspicious person, Mrs. Anna Rowe, thirty-four years old, of No. 4 West Ninety-fourth street, was arrested early this morning, following three suspicious fires in the neighborhood of Columbus avenue and Ninety-fourth street. According to the police of the West One Hundredth street station she will be charged with a more serious crime.

According to the police the woman admits that she was intoxicated and does not know where she was. She was arrested in the basement of a tenement in Columbus avenue, where a fire was discovered in an ash can.

So far as can be learned by the police the woman and her husband, Charles, who took after the apartment house at No. 4 West Ninety-fourth street, quarreled late last night, and she went to nearby cafes. About an hour later a fire was discovered in a baby carriage owned by Mrs. Ernest Retcher. The fire had gained headway when the woman was turned in. The firemen readily extinguished it and the police set out to look for the person who started it.

Two More Odd Fires.  
Hardly had the investigation begun than the police learned of a fire in the hallway at No. 76 West Ninety-fourth street. A broom was set ablaze, but tenants managed to extinguish it without calling out the fire engines.

About an hour later Mrs. Sarah Taylor, janitor of the tenement house at No. 69 Columbus avenue, heard somebody in the basement. As she started from her room she discovered an ash can, which was filled with papers, afire. Near the can, she alleges, she saw Mrs. Rowe.

Police in Roosevelt and Jordan, of the West One Hundredth street station, after putting out the fire arrested the woman on the charge of intoxication and being a suspicious person.

When taken to the station house, the prisoner, according to the police, admitted that she had lighted a piece of paper while in the basement of the house in Columbus avenue to look for her cat. As to being in the other houses the woman said she could not remember.

## POPE CELEBRATES GOLDEN JUBILEE

Archbishop Farley in Throng  
of 8,000 at Pontiff's Fiftieth  
Anniversary Mass.

ROCK, Sept. 18.—The Pope to-day received thousands of telegrams and addresses of felicitation from all parts of the world on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the celebration of his first mass. The Holy Father had planned to celebrate mass this morning in the Consistorial Hall, but so many pilgrims and others expressed a desire to be present that it was found necessary to make use of St. Peter's to accommodate the crowd.

About 8,000 persons attended, including eight cardinals and many archbishops, bishops and patriarchs of different nationalities.

The United States was represented by Archbishop Farley, of New York and his suite. The archbishop was warmly greeted by the other prelates present.

## FRIEND OF CONEY VICTIM BLAMES B. R. T. FOR DEATH

Train Started Without Warn-  
ing and Before All Passen-  
gers Had Alighted.

MRS. WALLING'S STORY.  
Declares Accident Did Not  
Happen as the Traction  
Officials Claim.

Gross carelessness on the part of B. R. T. employees was responsible for the killing of Mrs. Alice Bliss, of No. 240 Herkimer street, Brooklyn, at the Culver station, Coney Island, last night, according to her friend and companion, Mrs. Julia Walling, of No. 4 Decatur street.

Mrs. Walling described in detail today how Mrs. Bliss was thrown from a platform of a car at the Culver station and crushed to death.

"It was the fault of no one but the railroad people," said Mrs. Walling. "Mrs. Bliss and I had gone down to Coney Island to see the Mardi Gras parade. Our husbands would not go, so we went alone. On the way down we had seats in the center of the car. The

crowd was crowded, but not jammed, as some of the papers say. Arriving at the station, we got up to get out. As we approached the door there were still four or five people behind us. I went out first, stepping off onto the platform. Mrs. Bliss put her hand on my shoulder to steady herself, and as she did so the train started to move out with a jerk.

No Warning Given.  
"Now, I want to emphasize the fact that there were still other people on the car behind Mrs. Bliss. No bell was rung, nor was there any warning. I felt Mrs. Bliss clutch at my shoulder and then let go. As I turned round she fell screaming down between the side of the car and the station platform. She screamed several times, and when I tried to go to her several men dragged me away. Then I faintly for a little while and did not know what happened."

The dead woman was the wife of William J. Bliss, a real estate agent and owner of considerable Brooklyn property. When Mrs. Bliss's body was taken to the Coney Island police station the police found a money belt strapped around her waist which contained \$31.35. Her husband explained today that he had collected the money in rents yesterday and that he had given it to his wife to put in the bank for him today. She was forty years old.

After the accident the B. R. T. officials gave out that Mrs. Bliss had been jostled off the station platform in front of a car while waiting to return to Brooklyn. This is flatly denied by Mrs. Walling. Neither she nor Mrs. Bliss had landed in Coney Island at the time.

MILLIONAIRE'S YACHT  
SEIZED FOR \$3 DEBT.

DETROIT, Sept. 18.—The steam yacht Pastime, owned by Franklin H. Walker, commodore of the Country Club of Detroit, and a leader of the local smart set, was seized by Cash P. Taylor, United States deputy marshal today to satisfy a claim for \$3, which a former swimmer boy alleges is due him for wages. Now the millionaire owner of the craft will be obliged to bond her or settle the bill. Mr. Walker is one of the wealthiest men in Detroit.

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ON COT IN CELL

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While Awaiting His  
Sentence.

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First he ripped the covering of his pillow into strips and wove them into a rope. He tied one end to the top bar of his bedstead, and fastening the other end around his neck, tried to hang

himself. The improvised rope parted, leaving the portions too short for another attempt.

Then the desperate man tore a sheet into ribbons wide and strong enough when braided, to sustain his weight.

Prisoners' beds on the fourth tier of the Tombs, where Knapple was lodged in cell No. 411, contain what are known as double combination beds, one being built above the other on steel uprights.

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He evidently set up in bed and then lay face downward, deliberately allowing himself to be strangled into unconsciousness. The weight of his relaxed body did the rest, and he was dead when Keeper Cunningham discovered the body.

Cunningham gave an alarm, and the Tombs Physician declared that Knapple had died fully an hour before. The Coroner was notified and examined the body, which was removed to the Morgue.

Knapple was convicted of stealing drugs from a firm by which he was employed. When the drugs were missed

the night watchman was first arrested, his innocence was proven. Then the detectives watched the store and discovered Knapple in the act of robbery. He was single, and lived at No. 133 East One Hundred and Fifth street.

Knapple wrote a note on a paper bag before killing himself. It was found in the cell, and read as follows:  
"I hope Jesus will forgive me. Even if I get free I will go to the madhouse, and that is worse than the grave. God will judge me. I wrote a death certificate, which was filed with Judge Swan, before whom the prisoner was to have appeared for sentence."

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